

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KUWAIT 05714 111430Z

44

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CAB-05 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-02 FAA-00 PM-04
H-02 L-03 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15
/093 W

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R 111410Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
TO AMEMBASSY LONDON
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6809
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY ROME

UNCLAS KUWAIT 5714

ROME AND BRUSSELS FOR FAA; ROME ALSO FOR RCAA.

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, KU

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: LOCKHEED CONSTELLATION N-11SR

REF: (A) LONDON 13841, (B) STATE 197443, (C) KUWAIT
4160 (NOTAL), (D) STATE 169339 (NOTAL), (E) KUWAIT 3238.

1. IT HAS NOW BEEN NEARLY 6 MONTHS SINCE LOCKHEED
CONSTELLATION N-11SR, OWNED BY PM LEASING, 66 ARLINGTON
ROAD, LONDON, SW1, WAS ABANDONED AT KUWAIT AIRPORT BY
ITS PILOT, CAPTAIN BAKER, AND CREW. KUWAITI GOVERNMENT,
THROUGH NOTE FROM FOREIGN MINISTRY IN JULY, FORMALLY
REQUESTED EMBASSY'S ASSISTANCE. AT EMBASSY'S URGING
PM REP VISITED KUWAIT IN EARLY SEPTEMBER BUT DID NOT
RESOLVE MATTER.

2. DURING VISIT BY FAA ADMINISTRATOR DR. JAMES MCLUCAS
TO KUWAIT DECEMBER 5-6, KUWAIT DIRECTOR GENERAL OF CIVIL
AVIATION (DGCA) SHAIKH JABER AL-ATHBI AL-SABAH ASKED
ABOUT ABANDONED PLANE. HE NOTED THAT IT HAD NOT BEEN
REMOVED FROM AIRPORT, THOUGH IT HAD BEEN MOVED OUT OF
PARKING AREA. HE SAID THAT PM LEASING HAD RECENTLY
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PAGE 02 KUWAIT 05714 111430Z

PROMISED TO SEND REPS TO TAKE PLANE AWAY, BUT AS YET HAD

NOT DONE SO. DCM AND EMBOFF EXPLAINED THE EMBASSY HAD BEEN IN CONTACT WITH EMBASSY LONDON TO BRING TWO PARTIES TOGETHER BUT THAT DISPOSITION AND PROTECTION OF AIRCRAFT WAS RESPONSIBILITY OF PM LEASING (AS PER REF B).

3. DURING SEPTEMBER VISIT, CASEY OF PM LEASING TOLD EMBASSY THAT HIS COMPANY OBJECTED TO PAYMENT OF COMMERCIAL FEE DEMANDED BY KUWAIT AIRWAYS CORPORATION (KAC). PLANE WAS CARRYING CARGO UNDER CHARTER. DGCA RULES REQUIRE CHARTER AIRLINES TO REACH A "COMMERCIAL AGREEMENT" WITH KAC, THE NATIONAL AIRLINE, BEFORE BEING ALLOWED TO LAND. CASEY NOTED THAT PRICE DEMANDED BY KAC WAS TOO HIGH, SO HIGH AS TO MAKE REMOVAL OF THE PLANE UNPROFITABLE. CASEY SAID THAT HE HAD ARRANGED WITH DGCA TO REMOVE PLANE FROM MAIN PARKING AREA TO STORAGE IN DESERT AREA.

4. FYI. DGCA SHOWED EMBOFF COPY OF MARCH 27, 1976 ISSUE OF FLIGHT INTERNATIONAL MAGAZINE ARTICLE (PP. 782-785) ABOUT CONSTELLATION AIRCRAFT (REG NO N-11SR). ARTICLE INDICATED THAT AT THAT TIME PLANE WAS OWNED BY LANZAIR CO., WHOSE CHIEF PILOT WAS NAMED DUNCAN BAKER. BAKER IS SAME PILOT WHO FLEW PLANE INTO KUWAIT AND ABANDONED IT HERE, (REF D). ARTICLE SEEMINGLY CONFLICTS WITH REF D, PARA. 3 THAT PM LEASING OWNS AIRCRAFT. END FYI.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: REQUEST EMBASSY LONDON STRONGLY URGE PM LEASING TO COME TO SOME DEFINITE DECISION ON DISPOSITION OF PLANE AND SO INFORM DGCA AND THIS EMBASSY. WOULD APPRECIATE REPORT OF PM LEASING REACTION WHEN APPROACHED.
MAESTRONE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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